



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 16.1.2017
C(2017) 21 final*

*Mr Liviu DRAGNEA
President of the
Camera Deputaților
Palace of the Parliament
Str. Izvor nr. 2-4, sector 5
RO – 050563 BUCHAREST*

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Camera Deputaților for its Opinion concerning the Joint Communication "Elements for an EU-wide strategic framework to support security sector reform" {JOIN(2016) 31 final}.

With your support, the High Representative and the Commission will ensure the swift and effective implementation of this new EU-Wide strategic framework to support security sector reform (SSR) which was endorsed by the foreign affairs Council in November.

As you highlight, this policy also provides the framework for the new Capacity Building for Security and Development initiative¹ which is currently under discussion in the European Parliament and the Council and which would allow the EU to provide assistance to military actors under exceptional circumstances in line with the overarching objective of achieving sustainable development.

With reference to the Camera Deputaților's recommendation regarding the need to closely cooperate with the UN and NATO, the Commission would like to note that the EEAS and Commission services are indeed pursuing trilateral EU-UN-NATO cooperation on Defence Sector Reform, which has been identified as one of the priorities of the EU-UN Strategic Partnership agreed by the Political and Security Committee of the Council in 2015.

Moreover, the common set of proposals to implement the EU-NATO Leaders' Declaration, as endorsed by the Council on 6 December 2016, includes a commitment by the EU and NATO staffs to foster cooperation, including on the ground, on building partner's capacity and resilience, in particular in the Western Balkans and the Eastern and Southern Neighbourhoods. This includes identifying possibilities for the EU and

¹ Commission proposal for a Regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 230/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 establishing an instrument contributing to stability and peace {COM(2016) 447 final}.

NATO to participate in their respective projects and programmes and to ensure complementarity of maritime capacity building efforts.

The Commission welcomes the engagement of the Camera Deputaţilor in this important area. The contribution of Member States to the implementation of the EU SSR Framework will be essential to ensure the coherence and effectiveness of comprehensive EU engagement in the security sector of partner states.

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*

*Federica Mogherini
Vice-President/High Representative*